

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 00281 290148Z

73

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 OES-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 AGR-10 COME-00

INT-05 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 L-02 /078 W

----- 072977

P R 290029Z JAN 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8948

INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

UNCLAS USUN 281

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID UNDP

SUBJ: 19TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL--PROBLEMS EMANATING FROM THE
DROUGHT IN SOMALIA (ITEM 20)

1. IN DECISION ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION UNDP GC 28 JANUARY
DECIDED ALLOCATE \$2 MILLION FROM ITS PROGRAMME RESERVE ASSIST
SOMALIA DEAL WITH PROBLEMS OF DROUGHT.
2. DECISION ALSO REQUESTED UNDP "TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA,
IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UN SYSTEM,
IN FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AIMED AT
ACHIEVING THE SHORT-TO LONG-TERM RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION
OF THE PEOPLE OF THE DROUGHT-AFFECTED AREAS OF SOMALIA."
3. GC THROUGH ITS PRESIDENT, IVAN (HUNGARY) APPEALED TO ALL AID-
GIVING GOVERNMENTS TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE "ALARMING
SITUATION" IN SOMALIA, AND EXPRESSED ITS DESIRE TO BE INFORMED
AT ITS NEXT SESSION, IN JUNE, OF ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS
RELATING TO THE DROUGHT-STRICKEN REGIONS OF AFRICA, INCLUDING
PROBLEMS EMANATING FROM DROUGHT IN SOMALIA.
4. INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE PROBLEMS CAUSED
BY DROUGHT IN SOMALIA WERE MADE BY BRUCE STEDMAN, UNDP ASST.
ADMINISTRATOR AND REGIONAL REP IN ADDIS ABABA, WHO VISITED
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 00281 290148Z

SOMALIA IN LATE DECEMBER, AND JAALLE IBRAHIM MEGAG SAMANTAR,

ECONOMIC ADVISER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC. MR. SAMANTAR ASKED THAT THE COUNCIL ALLOCATE FUNDS AND THAT UNDP ACT AS A CATALYST FOR GENERATING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO MEET HIS COUNTRY'S REHABILITATION AND RECOVERY NEEDS.

5. BEFORE COUNCIL WAS NOTED (COPIES POUCHED DEPT AND AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO) BY THE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR CONTAINING ASSESSMENT SITUATION BASED VISIT AREA BY UNDP ASST. ADMINISTRATOR BRUCE STEDMAN. THE REPORT DESCRIBES THE GENERAL SITUATION, PROVIDES DATA ON EXTERNAL AID BEING RECEIVED, NOTES THE REHABILITATION AND RECOVERY PROGRAMME BEING PLANNED BY THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT AND DESCRIBES EXISTING UNDP AID PROJECTS RELEVANT TO THE PLANNED REHABILITATION PROGRAMME.

6. STEDMAN TOLD COUNCIL HE HAD VISITED FOUR SOMALI CAMPS FOR VICTIMS OF DROUGHT AND BEEN MOST IMPRESSED WITH THEIR EFFICIENCY. WHAT UNDP SHOULD TRY TO DO, IN HIS VIEW, WAS EXPAND AND ACCELERATE AS URGENT MATTER, VARIOUS PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES WHICH WERE ALREADY GOING ON WHICH RELATED TO RECOVERY FROM DROUGHT.

7. MR. SAMANTAR (SOMALIA) SAID THAT THE DEATH TOLL FROM HUNGER AND RELATED CAUSES NOW STOOD AT AROUND 1,000, MOST SMALL CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY. EIGHTEEN RELIEF CAMPS CONTAINED 160,000 PERSONS AND THEIR NUMBERS WERE INCREASING BY 4,000 TO 5,000 DAILY. SITUATION EXPECTED REACH PEAK END OF MAY, WHEN OVER THREE QUARTERS OF A MILLION PERSONS OR ONE FOURTH OF THE TOTAL POPULATION, WOULD REQUIRE CARE.

8. THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN EMERGENCY MEASURES AND, FROM A "VERY TIGHT: NATIONAL BUDGET, HAD COMMITTED APPROXIMATELY \$24,077,000 TO FINANCE EMERGENCY RELIEF MEASURES AND TO SUBSIDIZE THE PRICE OF ESSENTIAL FOOD ITEMS, HE STATED. ALSO, AND EMERGENCY RELIEF COMMITTEE HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED TO CO-ORDINATE AND ACCELERATE NATIONAL RELIEF OPERATIONS. A TENTATIVE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME CALLED FOR THE RESTOCKING OF HERDS, THE PROVISION OF SEEDS TO AFFECTED FARMERS, AND VARIOUS WATER AND AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS. A TEAM OF OUTSIDE EXPERTS WOULD BE REQUIRED IN LATE FEBRUARY OR EARLY MARCH TO HELP

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 00281 290148Z

FINALIZE PLAN THOSE ACTIVITIES.

9. WHILE THE IMMEDIATE RELIEF PHASE WOULD SOON REACH ITS CLIMAX, MEDIUM--AND LONG-TERM REHABILITATION MEASURES WOULD CALL FOR GREATER SUPPORT FROM UNDP AND OTHER UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES. THUS SOMALIA DESIRED GENEROUS ALLOCATION FROM THE UNDP FUND FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND A REVIEW OF HIS COUNTRY'S INDICATIVE PLANNING FIGURE FOR THE 1972-1976

PERIOD TO BRING IT INTO ACCORD WITH THE NEW REALITIES. HE CALLED ON UNDP TO SERVE AS A CATALYST FOR GENERATING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO MEET SOMALIA'S REHABILITATION AND RECOVERY NEEDS.

10. GENERAL THEMES OF GC MEMBER COMMENTS MADE ON THE REPORT AND THE STATEMENTS BY STEDMAN AND SAMANTAR WERE:

A) PROGRAMMES, WHICH NEED NOT BE COSTLY, WERE NEEDED IN THE AREA OF PREVENTION OF NATURAL DISASTERS:

B) THE SOMALI PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT WERE TO BE CONGRATULATED FOR THE EFFORTS THEY WERE MAKING TO HELP THEMSELVES;

C) THE SITUATION WAS DETERIORATING AND PERHAPS THE COUNCIL SHOULD SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE ITS CONTRIBUTION; OR IT SHOULD BE REGARDED AS A MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION AND THE SITUATION REVIEWED AT THE JUNE SESSION OF THE COUNCIL.

11. US. STATEMENT ON ITEM SUBJECT SEPTEL.
BENNETT

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FUND ALLOTMENT, DISASTER RELIEF, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, DROUGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USUNN00281
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750031-1050
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975018/aaaaahgk.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 FEB 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 FEB 2003 by RicharJA>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 19TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL--PROBLEMS EMANATING FROM THE DROUGHT IN SOMALIA (ITEM 20)
TAGS: EAID, SO, UNDP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006